



3/09/2024

Tristan

fyi-request-27070-9f1602c5@requests.fyi.org.nz

Tēnā koe Tristan

OIA: 1329877 – Communication with Auckland Grammar and St Cuthberts School regarding the review of Achievement Standards and NZ Curriculum Refresh

Thank you for your email of 30 May 2024 to the Ministry of Education (the Ministry) requesting the following information:

I am requesting communications you have on record with Auckland Grammar and St Cuthbert's schools or their employed staff. In particular, all communications related to NCEA and curriculum reviews.

On 19 June 2024, we received a response to our request for clarification as below:

Thanks for your response. I would like to limit the query to the last 12 months, and limit it exclusively to communications related to curriculum and assessment reviews.

On 30 June 2024, we received a response to our further request for clarification as below:

As the Review of Achievement Standards and NZ Curriculum Refresh are discrete projects within the Ministry with specific intended outcomes, I don't think it's too broad. I am looking for substantive communications that might reasonably be expected to have shaped the outcomes/direction/content for these projects.

I am not seeking communications sent to all schools and am happy for you to exclude that.

Your request has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act).

The Ministry has identified 11 documents in scope of your request. I am releasing eight documents to you in part as **Appendix A**, and withholding three in full. I provide my decision on the release of these documents in the **Appendix A document table** below.

Some information has been withheld under the following sections of the Act:

9(2)(a) of the Act, to protect the privacy of natural persons.

9(2)(ba)(ii) of the Act, to protect information which is subject to an obligation of confidence or which any person has been or could be compelled to provide under the authority of any enactment, where the making available of the information would be likely otherwise to damage the public interest.

9(2)(f)(iv) of the Act, to maintain the constitutional conventions for the time being which protect the confidentiality of advice tendered by Ministers of the Crown and officials.

As required under section 9(1) of the Act, I have considered the public interest in releasing the information withheld. I do not consider the public interest considerations favouring the release of this information are sufficient to outweigh the need to withhold it at this time.

Of the information provided by St Cuthbert's School, please note that some information has been provided to the Ministry where surveys have been informally conducted by a member of St Cuthbert's School. We note that these surveys are not indicative of any outcome related to the Review of Achievement Standards and NZ Curriculum Refresh. On 5 April 2024, the Minister announced that the NCEA Change Programme would be paused for two years. Once work on NCEA Level 2 and 3 development is taken up again, the Ministry will assess the data provided to see what is appropriate to include moving forward.

The Ministry has identified emails with Auckland Grammar School and St Cuthbert's in relation to individuals' roles in the English Curriculum Writing Groups. These emails have been determined to be out of scope, as they are administrative in nature and do not include substantive communications that might reasonably be expected to have shaped the outcomes/direction/content for these projects.

Please note, we may publish this response on our website after five working days. Your name and contact details will be removed.

Thank you again for your email. You have the right to ask an Ombudsman to review my decision on your request, in accordance with section 28 of the Act. You can do this by writing to info@ombudsman.parliament.nz or to Office of the Ombudsman, PO Box 10152, Wellington 6143.

Nāku noa, nā



Ellen MacGregor-Reid
Hautū | Deputy Secretary
Te Poutāhū | Curriculum Centre

Appendix A Document Table

#	Date	From	To	Subject	Decision on release
1	7 May 2023	Mike Young	Christina Webster	Feedback on DPS	Release in part. Information has been withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act.
2	7 Dec 2023	Marc Clement	Evan Sutherland, Henry Collette	FW: Commissioned work from the June hui	Release in part. Information has been withheld under sections 9(2)(a), 9(2)(ba)(ii) and 9(2)(f)(iv) of the Act.
2.1	Attachment: Thoughts post June 6-8 Phy SEG / MoE session				Withheld in full. Information has been withheld under sections 9(2)(ba)(ii) and 9(2)(f)(iv) of the Act.
3	29 Jan 2024	Mike Young	Christina Webster	Re: Better Now Activity	Release in part. Information has been withheld under sections 9(2)(a), 9(2)(ba)(ii) and 9(2)(f)(iv) of the Act.
3.1	Attachment: Document 2.2AAb Assessment Schedule edit 2.docx				Withheld in full. Information has been withheld under sections 9(2)(ba)(ii) and 9(2)(f)(iv) of the Act.
4	16 Feb 2024	Evan Sutherland	David Thrasher	RE: RAS L2 Physics - new LSA	Release in part. Information has been withheld under section 9(2)(a) 9(2)(ba)(ii) and 9(2)(f)(iv) of the Act.
4.1	Attachment: Thoughts post June 6-8 Phy SEG / MoE session				Withheld in full. Information has been withheld under sections 9(2)(ba)(ii) and 9(2)(f)(iv) of the Act.
5	19 Feb 2024	David Thrasher	Evan Sutherland	RE: Thanks Evan!	Release in part. Information has been withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act.
6	8 Apr 2024	Evan Sutherland	David Thrasher	RE: Level 2 Physics Learning Matrix initial draft	Release in part. Information has been withheld under sections 9(2)(a), 9(2)(ba)(ii) and 9(2)(f)(iv) of the Act.
6.1	Attachment: Learning Matrix				Withheld in full.

					Information has been withheld under sections 9(2)(ba)(ii) and 9(2)(f)(iv) of the Act.
7	1 Jul 2024	Evan Sutherland	David Thrasher	Survey summary of how Yr13 and Yr12 physics is happening - that hopefully flavours the future of NCEA	Release in part. Information has been withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act.
8	11 Jul 2024	David Thrasher	Rob Mill; Matthias Sauberlich; National Curriculum Refresh; Henry Collette; RAS Review	FW: 2 things: 1 thing to pass onto sci curriculum panel & 1 question for MoE	Release in part. Information has been withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act.